

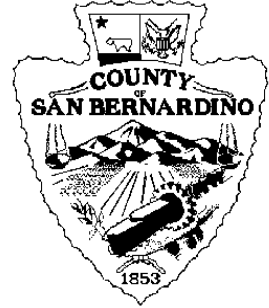
NEWS

From the Office of

Bill Postmus

Chairman/First District Supervisor
San Bernardino County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 31, 2005



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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVES CONTRACT TO PROVIDE VETERANS' SERVICES IN BARSTOW

SAN BERNARDINO – The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors has approved a contract with the California Department of Veterans Affairs to provide veterans' claims assistance at the Veterans Home of California in Barstow. A County Veterans Service Representative will be at the veterans home every Monday and Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. beginning Monday, April 4th. The San Bernardino County Department of Veterans Affairs will provide services, which include:

- Veterans benefit eligibility determination
- Analysis and preparation of benefit claims to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- Assistance with the VA appellate process
- Information and referral to other services available to veterans and their families

First District Supervisor Bill Postmus said, "This contract with the California Department of Veterans Affairs will allow our county to provide much needed outreach and services to Barstow area veterans. We certainly appreciate the state's spirit of cooperation."

The San Bernardino County Department of Veterans Affairs provided claims assistance, advocacy, and outreach to 17,000 county residents last year earning more than \$9.6 million in federal benefits for County residents. Department Director, Bill Moseley, said, "This partnership with the Barstow Veterans Home and the County of San Bernardino will ensure that valuable services are more readily available to our veterans living in the Barstow community."

Assistance is provided without charge and is available to all former military personnel and their families on a walk-in basis. Services will be provided at the Veterans Home of California, 100 East Veterans Parkway, Building 100-A, Barstow. The Veterans Service Representative's telephone number at the home is (760) 252-6257. Individuals with questions or concerns about hours of operation or available services should call the Veterans Affairs' administrative office at 909-387-5516.